

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KUALA 04064 120802Z

21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 030745

P 111001Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 566

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

COMSEVENTHFLT PRIORITY

S E C R E T KUALA LUMPUR 4064

EXDIS

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, US, XO

SUBJ: INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENT - VISIT OF USN FRIGATE

HAROLD HOLT TO PENANG

REF: STATE 161151

1. THIS EMBASSY RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON A TELEGRAPHIC REQUEST FOR DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCES FOR THE VISIT OF THE USS HAROLD HOLT TO PENANG. THE VISIT WAS DESCRIBED AS "ROUTINE". CLEARANCES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AND THE HOLT IS EXPECTED THERE TOMORROW. WE ARE NOW INFORMED BY REFTEL THAT THE HOLT WILL BE ONE OF A FOUR-SHIP TASK FORCE DEPLOYED TO THE INDIAN OCEAN FOR ABOUT FIFTY DAYS.

2. THERE IS A LONG HISTORY TO THE GOM'S SENSITIVITY ABOUT BIG POWER NAVAL ACTIVITIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN WITH WHICH ALL ADDRESSEES ARE UNDOUBTEDLY FAMILIAR. WE HAVE DECIDED, AND RIGHTLY SO, THAT OUR INTERESTS REQUIRE US TO IGNORE THIS SENSITIVITY, AND WE HAVE TRANSITTED THE MALACCA STRAITS WHEN WE HAVE WISHED, WITHOUT ADVANCE NOTIFICATION. THE GOM HAS NOT MADE AN ISSUE OF THIS ALTHOUGH WE KNOW THAT IT GIVES THEM

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KUALA 04064 120802Z

SOME DISQUIET. THE GOM HAS MADE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT

IT DID NOT WISH OUR SHIPS CALLING OR BUNKERING AT  
MALAYSIAN PORTS ENROUTE TO INDIAN OCEAN OPERATIONS.  
THIS IS BECAUSE THE GOM FOR ITS OWN FOREIGN POLICY PURPOSES  
BELIEVES THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE IN A POSITION OF  
"SUPPORTING" OUR INDIAN OCEAN OPERATIONS. WE KNOW  
AND HAVE KNOWN FOR SOME MONTHS THAT THERE IS NOT COMPLETE  
UNANIMITY OF VIEW ON THIS WITHIN THE GOM. DESPITE THIS,  
GOM'S OFFICIAL POSITION REMAINS AS I HAVE OUTLINED  
ABOVE, ALTHOUGH I BELIEVE THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN A GOOD  
TIME TO TEST THIS POLICY BY REQUESTING A PORT VISIT  
FOR A SHIP DESTINED TO INDIAN OCEAN.

3. ALTHOUGH WE DESCRIBE INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENTS  
AS "ROUTINE" IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS, THEY ARE CLEARLY  
NOT RPT NOT "ROUTINE" AS FAR AS AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC  
MISSIONS IN THIS AREA ARE CONCERNED. I CAN SEE NO  
EXCUSE FOR A REQUEST TO HAVE COME TO THIS EMBASSY  
FOR A DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE FOR THE HAROLD HOLT WHICH  
CONCEALED THE HOLT'S TRUE BUSINESS. WE WELCOME  
SHIP VISITS AND, AS I HAVE INDICATED ABOVE, WOULD LIKE  
TO TEST THE GOM'S PRESENT STANCE ON PORT CALLS FOR  
OUR SHIPS OPERATING IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. WE CANNOT  
DO SO UNLESS CLEARANCE REQUESTS CONTAIN FULL AND  
ACCURATE INFORMATION.  
DILLON

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HAROLD HOLT USS, MILITARY VISITS, PORT CLEARANCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975KUALA04064  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750241-0510  
**From:** KUALA LUMPUR  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750765/aaaacgdd.tel  
**Line Count:** 86  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 161151  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 22 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <22 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INDIAN OCEAN DEPLOYMENT - VISIT OF USN FRIGATE HAROLD HOLT TO PENANG  
**TAGS:** MPOL, PFOR, OCLR, US, XO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006